



12055 Government Center Parkway ❖ Suite 927

Fairfax, Virginia 22035-1118 ❖ 703-324-8701

JUDY PEDERSEN
E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov
PRESS INQUIRIES: 703-324-8662
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Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Appoints Park Authority Director

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors moved the appointment of Michael A. Kane as Director of the Fairfax County Park Authority. Today's action confirmed the Park Authority Board's choice of Kane in mid-December 2002. Kane, a 25-year veteran of the Park Authority, assumes the top position immediately. He replaces Paul Baldino, who retired three months ago.

"We are confident that the Park Authority is in good hands, " said Park Authority Board Chairman Winnie Shapiro. "Mike has dedicated his career to recreation management and administration. He knows the Park Authority inside and out. He offers a vision and philosophy we are all comfortable with."

Kane will oversee the day-to-day operations of the 22,000-acre county park system including all agency functions and divisions. The agency employs 592 full-time workers and over 2,000 part-time employees. The Park Authority operating budget for FY 2003 is \$50 million. The capital budget is \$51 million.

Director Kane is a graduate of East Carolina University where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Parks, Recreation and Conservation Administration. He is also a graduate of the Leadership Fairfax Class of 2001. He has served with the Park Authority as an Assistant Manager, a Park Manager, Assistant Superintendent of Park Facilities, Deputy Director and Acting Director. Kane was instrumental in the reorganization of the Park Authority as a special assignment in the Office of the County Executive in 1986 and 1987.

The Park Authority conducted a nationwide search to which 53 candidates responded. The applicant pool included candidates from 13 states and the District of Columbia. Eleven candidates were identified as possessing demonstrated technical and leadership capabilities within the parks and recreation field. Six of those eleven were offered interviews. On December 5, 2002, the Park Authority Board interviewed the five best qualified candidates who chose to continue in the process. After considering the candidate's philosophy, vision, experience, training/education and accomplishments, the Park Authority Board voted unanimously to select Kane.

The 50-year-old Kane lives with his wife, Debby, in Ashburn, Virginia.

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